

RESOLUTIONS
OF THE
LEGISLATURE OF MAINE,
IN RELATION

To a uniform decimal system of weights, measures, and currencies.

APRIL 10, 1860.—Referred to the Committee on the Library, and ordered to be printed.

STATE OF MAINE.

RESOLUTIONS in relation to a uniform decimal system of weights, measures, and currencies.

Whereas, there now exists throughout the civilized world divers unequal, incongruous, and inconvenient systems of weights, measures, and currencies, without a proper basis or any uniform ratio of divisions and multiples, thus subjecting the scholar, the teacher, and the man of business to numerous and needless perplexities in computation and in trade, and making it a most difficult task to determine the absolute or the comparative value of many coins, quantities, and admeasurements now in use; and whereas a reform in regard to these inequalities and regularities is demanded by the highest interests of education and commerce: Therefore,

Resolved, That our senators and representatives in Congress be requested to use their influence to have that body consider the proposed subject, and establish a uniform decimal system of weights, measures, and currencies, fixing their standards or units of each measure, with their subdivisions or multiples, in the most concise and simple manner; and the more effectually to promote this desirable reform, an international commission be recommended for the purpose of producing a uniform system of metrology throughout the commercial world.

And whereas any great reform of this kind can be successfully completed only by the aid of scientific men; and whereas it is necessary for the end in view to bring to requisition the greatest ability and ingenuity to be found in the nation: Therefore,

Resolved, That Congress be recommended to offer a worthy premium to any citizen of the United States who shall devise the best system of decimal weights, measures, and currencies; the question of merit to be decided by the commission, to which the whole subject shall be intrusted.

Resolved, That the secretary of state be instructed to forward printed copies of these resolves to our senators and representatives in Congress.

IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, *March 20, 1860.*

Read and passed.

F. A. PIKE, *Speaker.*

IN SENATE, *March 20, 1860.*

Read and passed.

T. H. MARSHALL, *President.*

Approved, *March 20, 1860.*

LOT M. MORRILL.

STATE OF MAINE.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,
Augusta, April 3, 1860.

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the original deposited in this office.

NOAH SMITH,
Secretary of State.